DC
5
BATGIRLS
CLOONAN
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STERN
AGES 13+
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THOMAS WAYNE HUNTS A KILLER TO SAVE HIS SON'S WORLD!

FLASHPOINT BEYOND

The sequel to the reality-shattering DC event

Written by
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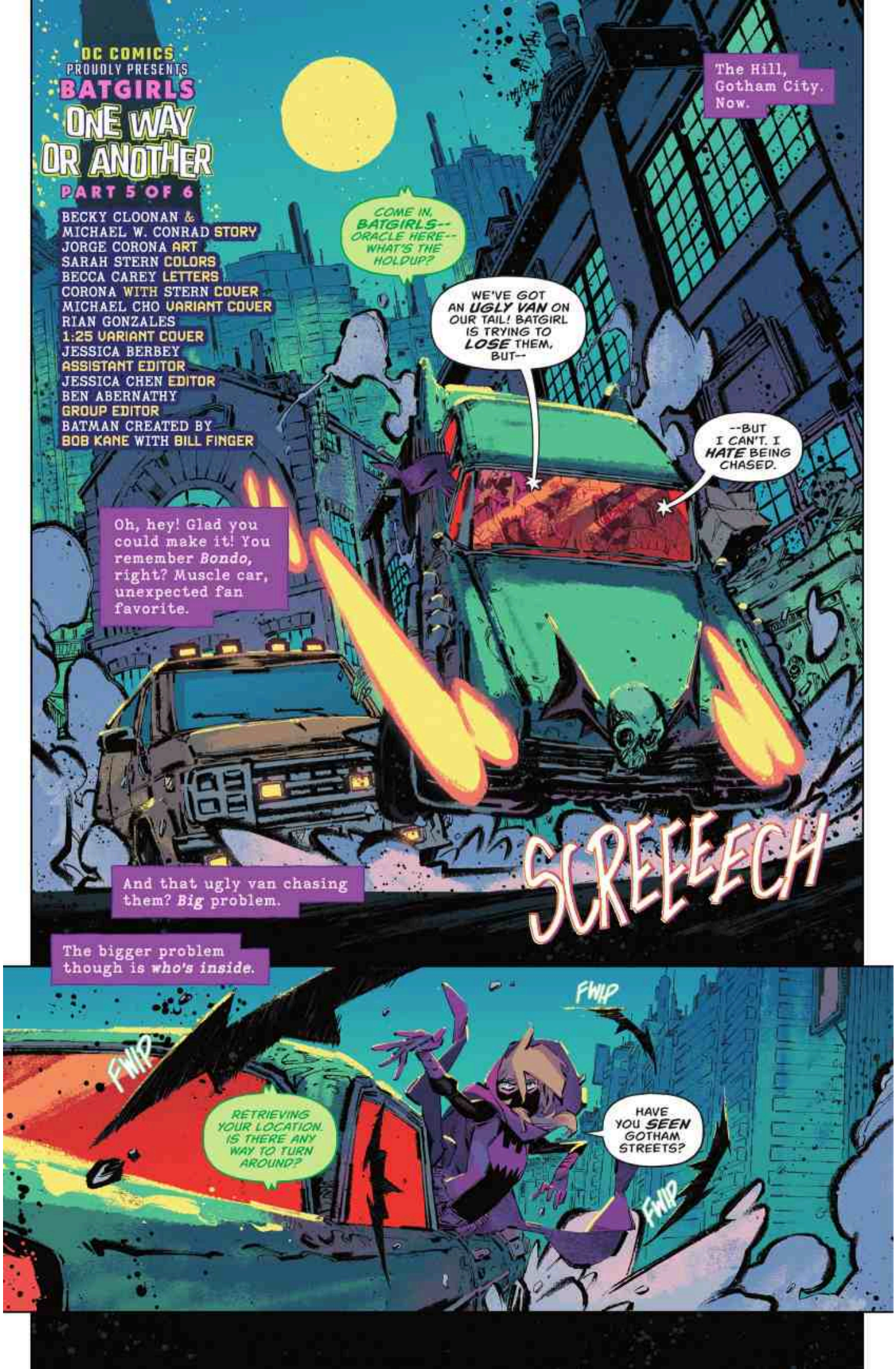
XERMÁNICO

DC

APRIL
6 issues

Flashpoint Beyond #1 main cover: Mitch Gerads


DC COMICS
PROUDLY PRESENTS
BATGIRLS
ONE WAY OR ANOTHER
PART 5 OF 6
BECKY CLOONAN & MICHAEL W. CONRAD STORY
JORGE CORONA ART
SARAH STERN COLORS
BECCA CAREY LETTERS
CORONA WITH STERN COVER
MICHAEL CHO VARIANT COVER
RIAN GONZALES 1:25 VARIANT COVER
JESSICA BERBEY ASSISTANT EDITOR
JESSICA CHEN EDITOR
BEN ABERNATHY GROUP EDITOR
BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE WITH BILL FINGER
The Hill, Gotham City. Now.
COME IN, BATGIRLS-- ORACLE HERE-- WHAT'S THE HOLDUP?
WE'VE GOT AN UGLY VAN ON OUR TAIL! BATGIRL IS TRYING TO LOSE THEM, BUT--
--BUT I CAN'T. I HATE BEING CHASED.
Oh, hey! Glad you could make it! You remember Bondo, right? Muscle car, unexpected fan favorite.
SCREEEECH
And that ugly van chasing them? Big problem.
The bigger problem though is who's inside.
FWIP
FWIP
FWIP
RETRIEVING YOUR LOCATION. IS THERE ANY WAY TO TURN AROUND?
HAVE YOU SEEN GOTHAM STREETS?

BATGIRL, THEY'RE GONNA SMASH INTO US!
CRANK
HANG ON.
SKA-REEEAACH
NO. WE'RE GONNA SMASH INTO THEM.
BRAAAAAA
SKREEEE

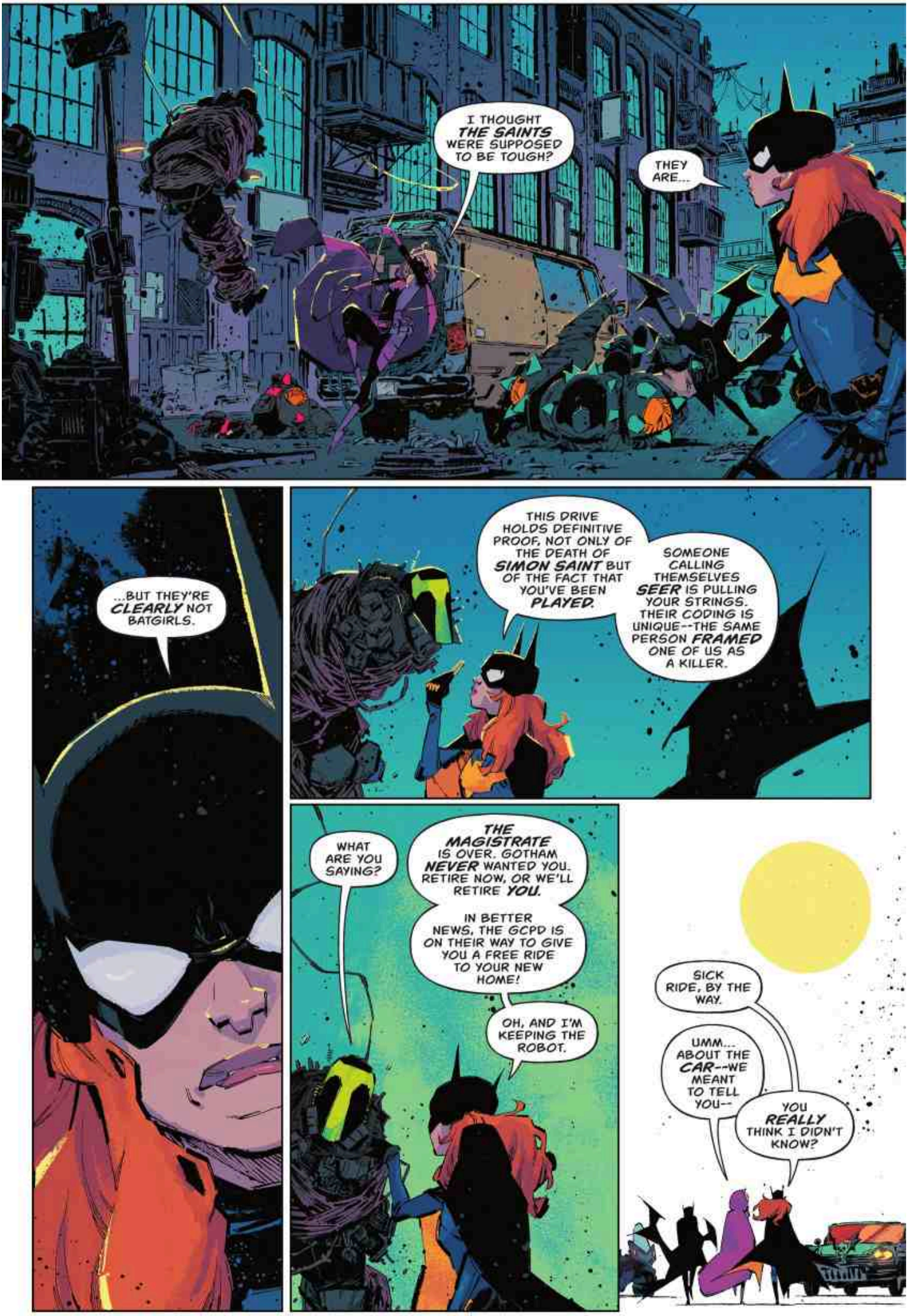
THEY'RE INSANE.
ALL THE MORE REASON TO PUT THEM OUT OF THEIR MISERY.
WE'VE BIDED OUR TIME LONG ENOUGH.
IF IT'S A GAME OF CHICKEN THEY WANT, I'LL GLADLY PLAY ALONG.
TARSUS, THEY AREN'T SLOWING DOWN.
TURN, TURN! DAMN IT, ASSIS!

Oh look, it's the Saints. Of course they drive a creepy white van.
NICE JOB, YOU TWO--
--CONFRONTING YOUR ENEMIES INSTEAD OF BEING CHASED BY THEM...
SKROOOOM

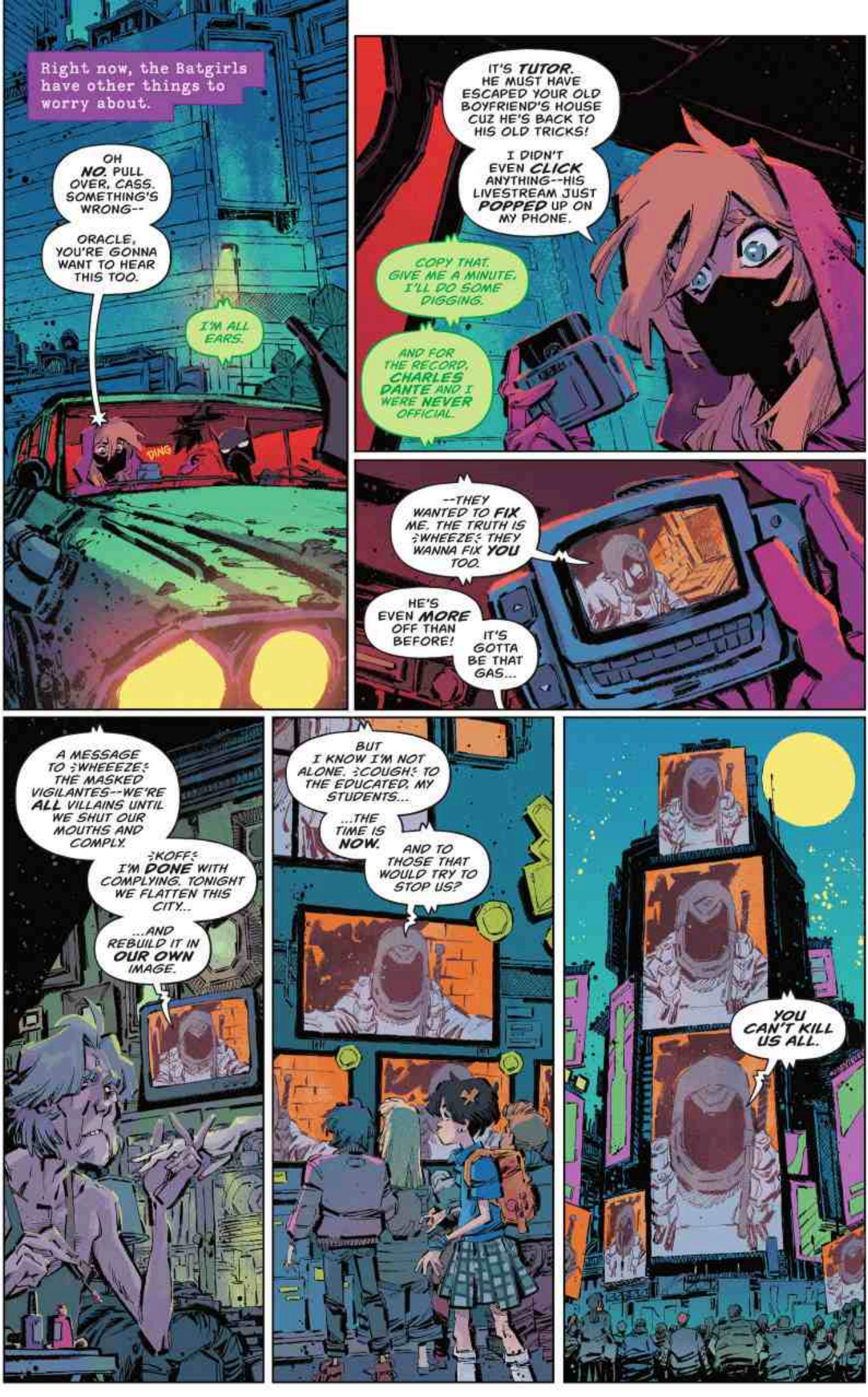
...CLASSIC BATGIRL.
VROOOOOOM
TAKES ONE TO KNOW ONE--!
--WHOOOOAAAA!
SOME HELP HERE?
KA-THONK
HAH HA, OKAY, NOW I MIGHT ACTUALLY DIE.
KEEP HOLDING ON.
OH--HEY, BOSS, NICE BIKE.
TUUNK

KLASHT
OH, SHHHHH--
GOTCHA!
These nasty ex-operatives didn't just miss the memo-- Seer has deepfaked them into believing Simon Saint is still alive!
BATGIRLS.
SIMON SAINT PUT A PRICE ON YOUR HEADS.
record scratch sound effect You may be wondering why Tarsus just name-dropped the long-deceased Magistrate leader.
And by doing so, she sicced 'em on the Batgirls.
VALENTINE, ASSIS!-- IT'S TIME TO COLLECT.
SMASH
WITH PLEASURE--
SKREEEET
TRUST ME-- THE PLEASURE'S ALL MINE!
WHAM

CALLING IN SUPPORT! FIDO-5, COME!
WHISTLE
w00f w00f!
OH GOOD.
THUNK
BEEP BEEP BEEP
HACKED
wh1mp3r wh1mp3r
YEAH, SEND THE ROBOT AT THE GEEK.
SMART MOVE.
IT'S MINE NOW.
FWOOSH
VALENTINE! ASSIS! DO SOMETHING!
ASSISI?!
WHUNK WHUNK WHUNK
GOT 'EM!
They may be seasoned killers, but they're so outclassed.
And easily manipulated.
Kinda tragic, actually.
WHAT'S IT TO BE THEN? TORTURE? I CAN HANDLE--
KRAK
OW!


I THOUGHT THE SAINTS WERE SUPPOSED TO BE TOUGH?
THEY ARE...
...BUT THEY'RE CLEARLY NOT BATGIRLS.
THIS DRIVE HOLDS DEFINITIVE PROOF, NOT ONLY OF THE DEATH OF SIMON SAINT BUT OF THE FACT THAT YOU'VE BEEN PLAYED.
SOMEONE CALLING THEMSELVES SEER IS PULLING YOUR STRINGS. THEIR CODING IS UNIQUE--THE SAME PERSON FRAMED ONE OF US AS A KILLER.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
THE MAGISTRATE IS OVER. GOTHAM NEVER WANTED YOU. RETIRE NOW, OR WE'LL RETIRE YOU.
IN BETTER NEWS, THE GCPD IS ON THEIR WAY TO GIVE YOU A FREE RIDE TO YOUR NEW HOME!
OH, AND I'M KEEPING THE ROBOT.
SICK RIDE, BY THE WAY.
UMM... ABOUT THE CAR--WE MEANT TO TELL YOU--
YOU REALLY THINK I DIDN'T KNOW?

FIDO, COME!
gRr4rR4rr
FIDO!
WHAT DID YOU DO?
I ADOPTED HIM! WHO'S A GOOD BOY?
w0of w0of <3!
THAT'S RIGHT! NO MORE MALWARES FOR YOU, GOOD BOY!
LET'S GO, BATGIRLS!
b0rk b0rk <3!
BRRRAAAPPP
WISH I COULD SAY IT'S BEEN NICE KNOWING YA...
...BUT IT HASN'T! C'MON, BATGIRL. HIT THE GAS.
Think this is the last we've seen of the Saints? Think again.
SCREEEECH
VROOOOOOOM
But more on that later.


Right now, the Batgirls have other things to worry about.
OH NO. PULL OVER, CASS. SOMETHING'S WRONG--
ORACLE, YOU'RE GONNA WANT TO HEAR THIS TOO.
I'M ALL EARS.
DING
IT'S TUTOR. HE MUST HAVE ESCAPED YOUR OLD BOYFRIEND'S HOUSE CUZ HE'S BACK TO HIS OLD TRICKS!
I DIDN'T EVEN CLICK ANYTHING--HIS LIVESTREAM JUST POPPED UP ON MY PHONE.
COPY THAT. GIVE ME A MINUTE. I'LL DO SOME DIGGING.
AND FOR THE RECORD, CHARLES DANTE AND I WERE NEVER OFFICIAL.
--THEY WANTED TO FIX ME. THE TRUTH IS ;WHEEZE; THEY WANNA FIX YOU TOO.
HE'S EVEN MORE OFF THAN BEFORE!
IT'S GOTTA BE THAT GAS...
A MESSAGE TO ;WHEEEZE; THE MASKED VIGILANTES--WE'RE ALL VILLAINS UNTIL WE SHUT OUR MOUTHS AND COMPLY.
;KOFF; I'M DONE WITH COMPLYING. TONIGHT WE FLATTEN THIS CITY..
...AND REBUILD IT IN OUR OWN IMAGE.
BUT I KNOW I'M NOT ALONE. ;COUGH; TO THE EDUCATED, MY STUDENTS...
...THE TIME IS NOW.
AND TO THOSE THAT WOULD TRY TO STOP US?
YOU CAN'T KILL US ALL.

ALL RIGHT. BASED ON CELL TOWER DATA, I HAVE A ROUGH IDEA OF WHERE HE'S AT.
HOW ROUGH ARE WE TALKING?
SEVERAL CITY BLOCKS, BUT I'M ABOUT TO NARROW THAT DOWN.
I'M IMPRESSED. FIDO-5 HERE HAS A SURPRISINGLY INTUITIVE PROGRAM...
...BUT NOT VERY SECURE. WHICH IS GOOD.
CLICK
CLICK-A-CLACK
CLICK
GO FETCH! GOOD BOY!
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE SENDING THAT SAINTS ROBO-DOG?
4RF <3!
HECK YES, I AM! I FED IT SOME PROTOCOLS TO HELP TRIANGULATE TUTOR'S LOCATION.
I TRACK FIDO, FIDO TRACKS TUTOR! VOILA.
DING
YES!
YES, WHAT? WHAT?!
MY SCRIPT FINALLY FINISHED DECRYPTING TUTOR'S BACKGROUND FILE!
GOD, I LOVE MY JOB.

REAL NAME, CODY KLINE. AVERAGE UPBRINGING, LIFETIME CITY RESIDENT.
AFTER GRADUATING FROM GOTHAM ACADEMY, HE WENT ON TO STUDY ART OVER AT GOTHAM UNIVERSITY.
SKREEEEEEE
SHORTLY AFTER FINISHING HIS B.A., OUR BOY CODY WAS BUSTED FOR SOME MINOR INFRACTIONS--GRAFFITI, TRESPASSING, NOTHING TOO WILD...
EYES ON FIDO!
VROOOOM
NOW THIS IS WHERE IT GETS INTERESTING.
WELL, INTERESTING AND TRAGIC.
bØrk <3!
A FEW YEARS AGO, CODY SUFFERED A PSYCHOTIC BREAK AFTER ONE OF THE SCARECROW'S FEAR GAS ATTACKS.
HE WAS PUT ON A 72-HOUR HOLD...
DANG.
PRETTY SURE WE KNOW WHERE THIS STORY IS GOING.
YOU GUESSED IT...

...ARKHAM ASYLUM.
Of course, you know all about this place. Now abandoned and creepy, in its glory days, this celebrated institution housed some of the most notorious criminals under the guise of *rehabilitation*.
But honestly? Arkham was always just a black hole where Gotham would throw away its most troubled individuals.
A modern oubliette. The proverbial carpet under which the city swept its nastiest problems.
They forgot that things unseen...
...don't simply *disappear*.
ARKHAM ASYLUM
BE CAREFUL, BATGIRLS. A STORM'S ROLLING IN.
w00f
@_@

I THOUGHT THEY MOVED EVERYONE TO THE TOWER.* THIS PLACE IS EMPTY, RIGHT?
WELL, TUTOR IS THERE, AND GROWING MORE UNSTABLE BY THE MINUTE. HIS THREATS MAY BE VAGUE, BUT HE WILL ACT ON THEM.
HE'S WEAK. WE CAN TAKE HIM OUT.
*SEE DETECTIVE COMICS #1047! --JESS C.
I'M LESS CONCERNED ABOUT HIS ABILITY TO FIGHT THAN I AM ABOUT HIS ABILITY TO GET INTO PEOPLE'S HEADS.
COPY THAT.
THEY BUILT THE TOWER FROM THE GROUND UP--EVERYTHING IS STATE OF THE ART. I SUSPECT A LOT GOT LEFT BEHIND.
IT'S LIKE THEY JUST PACKED UP AND LEFT OVERNIGHT...
I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO REACH CHARLES DANTE SINCE TUTOR BROKE FREE.
I'M GONNA CHECK ON HIM. LOGGING OFF COMMS FOR A MINUTE.
CREEEAAK
GO. WE'VE GOT THIS.
THAT MAN IS HIDING SOMETHING. BE CAREFUL.
ALWAYS.

I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY JUST LEFT ALL THESE FILES--BUT MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING WE CAN USE.
ORACLE SAID CLINE, RIGHT?
YEAH.
NO JOY. IT'S NOT HERE.
FOUND IT.
HE SPELLS IT WITH A K.
CASS, YOU'RE AMAZING! GREAT FIND.
OH NO...
WHAT DOES IT SAY?
YOU WERE RIGHT ABOUT THAT DANTE GUY.
While Mr. Kline has suffered as a result of dosing himself with Fear Gas, the patient will be discharged following his mandatory hold. It is my professional opinion that this temporary psychosis was purely the result of the introduction of a psychotropic agent to an otherwise healthful young man.
During his stay, Mr. Kline displayed no intent to harm himself or others. However, he has expressed great concerns about authority and Gotham politics, with invasive thoughts of masked vigilantes. While these concerns may not be delusional, Kline should receive further treatment to allay this fixation.
I will personally follow up with the patient for a period of two weeks and encourage Mr. Kline to seek ongoing therapeutic services in addition to maintaining an ongoing schedule of prescribed mood stabilizers (see AA Discharge Form 11B).
Arkham Asylum Discharge Summary
For Office Use Only
Charles Dante, MD
LOOKS LIKE HE AND TUTOR GO WAY BACK.
ORACLE. COME IN, ORACLE. DO YOU COPY? WE JUST FOUND SOMETHING BIG...

Nope, Babs did not copy. She didn't wanna roll up to her ex's--ahem, *old acquaintance's*--house in a Batgirl suit.
If she *did* copy, Babs would probably tell you that she always knew he was kind of a tool.
CHARLES? IT'S BABS. EVERYTHING OKAY IN THERE?
YOUR DOOR WAS OPEN...I'M COMING IN.
HELLO? CHARLES?
COME IN, BATGIRLS. I THINK I'VE GOT A SITUATION HERE.
ORACLE, YOU'RE BACK! LISTEN TO ME-- **DON'T** GO TO DANTE'S HOUSE! DUDE'S BEEN A **CREEP** ALL ALONG!
WHAT?
HE **KNOWS** TUTOR. LIKE, FROM **BEFORE!** HE WAS HIS DAMN DOCTOR AT **ARKHAM!**
CREAK
THAT'S ALL WE KNOW RIGHT NOW...
...BUT THIS **CAN'T** BE A COINCIDENCE.
YEAH. OKAY. I SHOULD PROBABLY GET OUT OF--

BARBARA, DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE LEAVING ALREADY?
I INSIST YOU STAY LONGER-- YOU'VE ONLY JUST ARRIVED. AFTER ALL...
...YOU AND I HAVE SOME CATCHING UP TO DO.

WAIT, YOU DIDN'T GO INTO DANTE'S HOUSE, DID YOU?
ORACLE? ARE YOU THERE?
THUNK
I HEARD SOMETHING.
I'LL GO LOOK.
ORACLE, DO YOU COPY? COME ON, ANSWER ME!
--GRACE, ARE YOU SURE?
THUNK

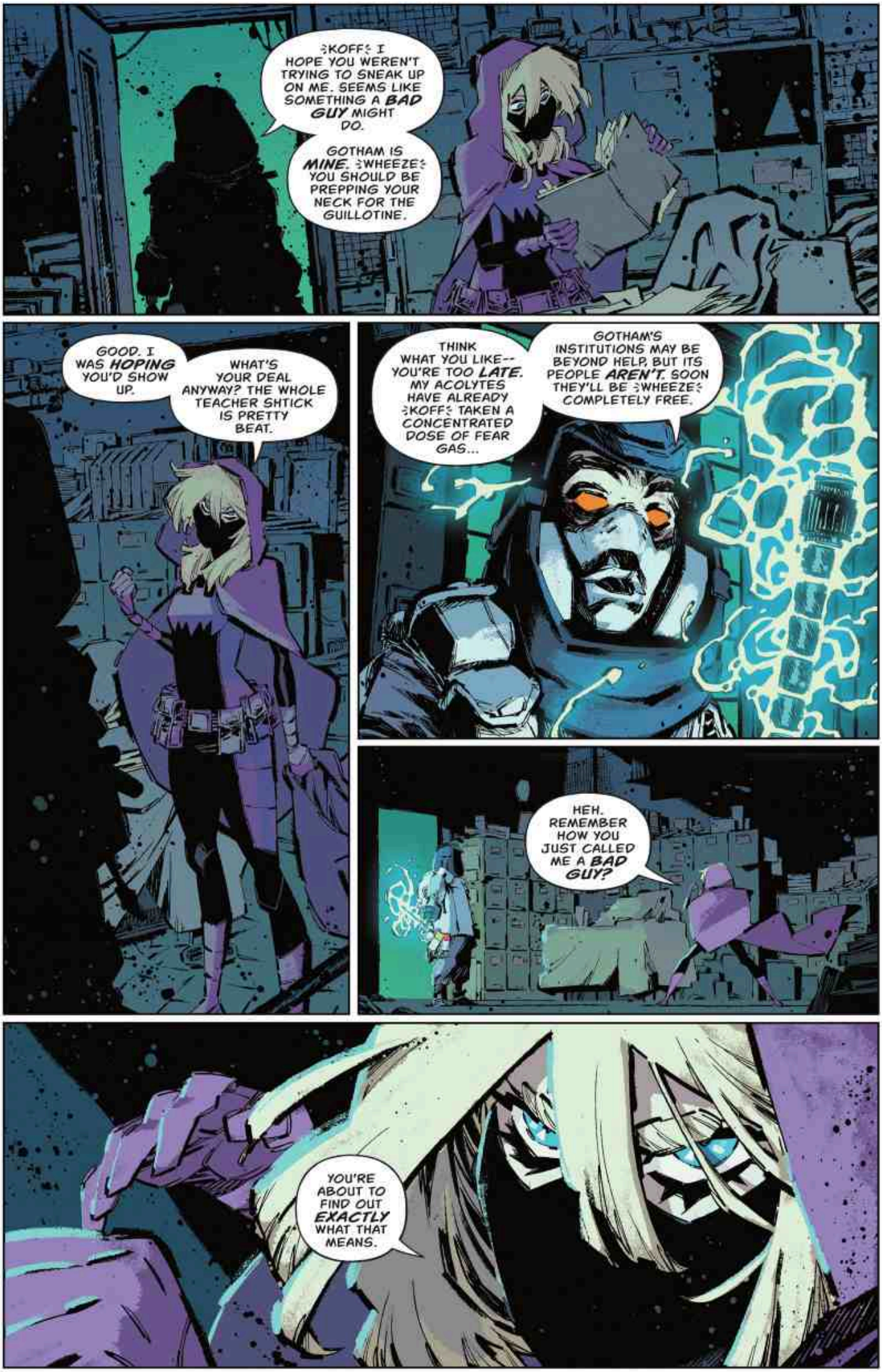
YES, I'M SURE! ROLL CAMERA!
I AM REPORTING LIVE FROM ATOP THE NOW-DEFUNCT ARKHAM ASYLUM TO BRING LOYAL GC52 VIEWERS A FIRST LOOK AT GOTHAM'S TRANSFORMATION!
FROM WITHIN THESE WALLS, THE VISIONARY ARTIST TUTOR WILL WIPE THE SLATE CLEAN. HE IS GIVING US WHAT THE CITY NEEDS--A BLANK CANVAS.
NOW I, GRACE O'HALLORAN, RISK LIFE AND LIMB TO BRING YOU LIVE FOOTAGE OF GOTHAM'S GLORIOUS REBIRTH!
NO ONE CAN STOP OUR REVOLUTION--
NOT EVEN THE BATGIRLS!
WE RIDE AS ONE, AND WE'RE RULED BY NONE!
UM... BATGIRL?

THEY'RE COMING...
RISE...
RISE...
RISE...
RISE...
RISE...
RISE...

WHAT? WHO'S COMING?
I THINK... EVERYONE.

OKAY. SIT TIGHT. WHERE ARE YOU?
THE ROOF.

I CAN TAKE THEM.
EVERYONE?
NO, WAIT-- I'LL COME TO YOU.


:KOFF: I HOPE YOU WEREN'T TRYING TO SNEAK UP ON ME. SEEMS LIKE SOMETHING A BAD GUY MIGHT DO.
GOTHAM IS MINE. :WHEEZE: YOU SHOULD BE PREPPING YOUR NECK FOR THE GUILLOTINE.
GOOD. I WAS HOPING YOU'D SHOW UP.
WHAT'S YOUR DEAL ANYWAY? THE WHOLE TEACHER SHTICK IS PRETTY BEAT.
THINK WHAT YOU LIKE-- YOU'RE TOO LATE. MY ACOLYTES HAVE ALREADY :KOFF: TAKEN A CONCENTRATED DOSE OF FEAR GAS...
GOTHAM'S INSTITUTIONS MAY BE BEYOND HELP, BUT ITS PEOPLE AREN'T. SOON THEY'LL BE :WHEEZE: COMPLETELY FREE.
HEH. REMEMBER HOW YOU JUST CALLED ME A BAD GUY?
YOU'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT EXACTLY WHAT THAT MEANS.

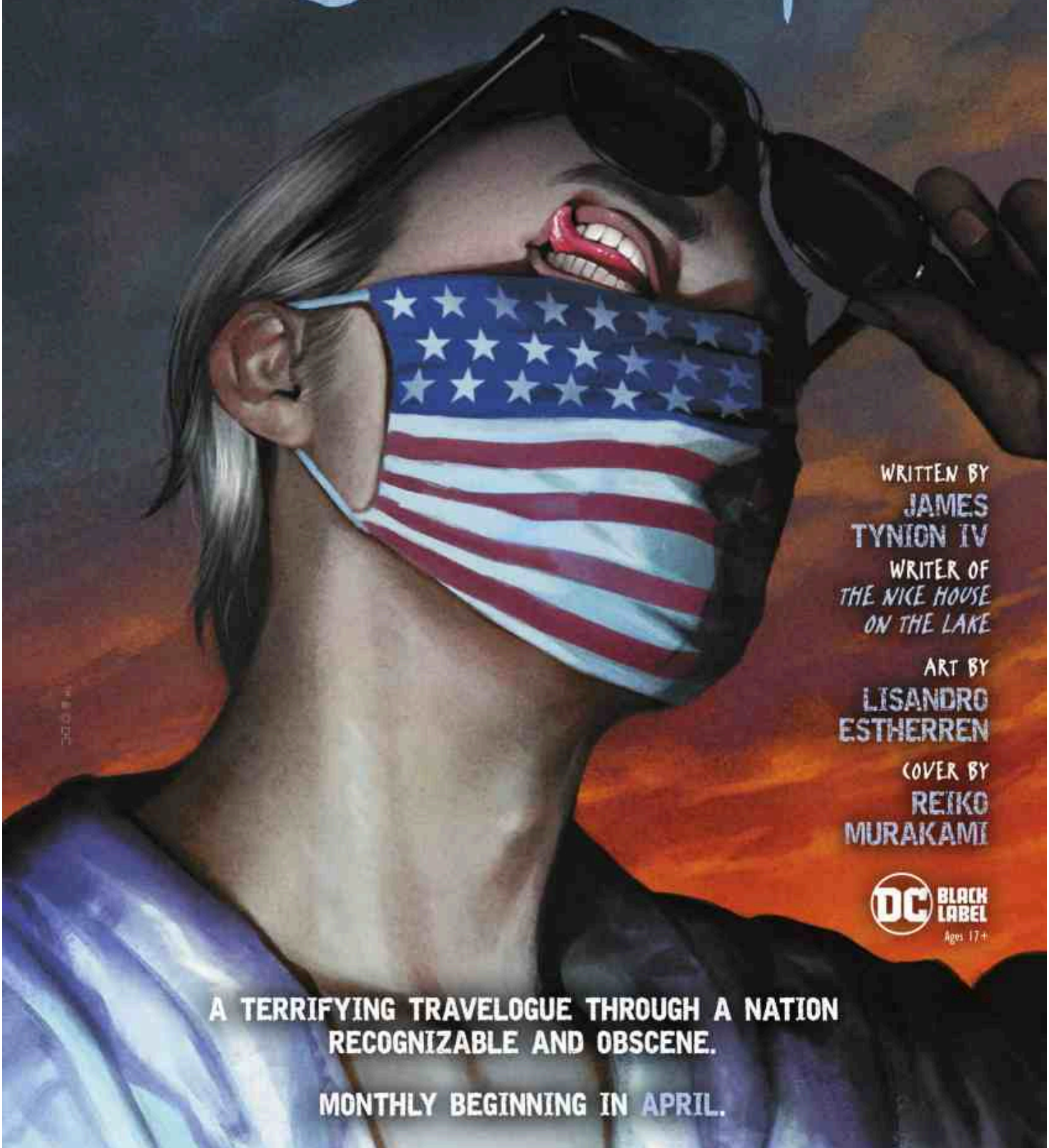
Before Steph's fight kicks off, let's cut back to the roof real quick.
This might look like a scene out of a zombie movie to you, but Cass doesn't make that connection because she's never seen one before.
Add it to the list of things that sucked about the way she was brought up.
Fewer points of reference.
LOOK-- ON THE ROOF! TUTOR SAID THEY WOULD COME FOR US.
REMEMBER THIS NIGHT, PEOPLE. THIS IS THE NIGHT WE KILL OURSELVES A BAT.
In exactly three weeks, Cass will watch Night of the Living Dead for the first time.
YOU TALK TOO MUCH.
And...she's going to love it.

Babs, on the other hand, *hates* horror movies. You didn't think we forgot about her, did you?
COME IN, BARBARA. HAVE A SEAT.
We'd never forget about her.
CHOOM
DO MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE.
Problem is...
...neither would *Spellbinder*.
A SLEEPING MUSE.
THE *PERFECT* SUBJECT FOR MY NEXT WORK.
NEXT: DRAW ME LIKE ONE OF YOUR DEAD GIRLS

I WILL SHOW YOU TERROR IN AN EYEFUL OF TEETH

THE SANDMAN ✦ UNIVERSE

NIGHTMARE COUNTRY



WRITTEN BY
JAMES TYNION IV
WRITER OF
THE NICE HOUSE ON THE LAKE

ART BY
LISANDRO ESTHERREN

COVER BY
REIKO MURAKAMI

DC BLACK LABEL
Ages 17+

A TERRIFYING TRAVELOGUE THROUGH A NATION RECOGNIZABLE AND OBSCENE.

MONTHLY BEGINNING IN APRIL.

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

FLASHPOINT BEYOND

Legendary writer Geoff Johns returns to the world he created in the six-issue series *Flashpoint Beyond*, along with writers Jeremy Adams and Tim Sheridan and artist Xermánico!

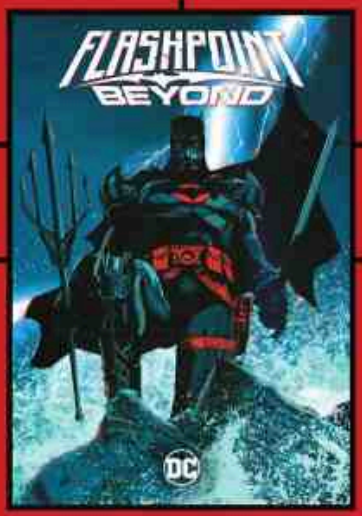
After sacrificing everything to help the Flash put the universe back together and save Bruce Wayne's life, Thomas Wayne wakes up in a world he thought was no more. Forced to don the cowl once again, Flashpoint Batman prowls the streets of Gotham City searching for answers to how this world still exists—but what he starts to uncover will send him hurtling around the globe.

Catch up with Thomas Wayne's adventures that span the Multiverse and beyond:

FLASHPOINT
Barry Allen wakes up to discover a world that's running out of time. Can he find the villain who altered the timeline?

FLASHPOINT: BATMAN KNIGHT OF VENGEANCE
The Joker is on the loose and Batman is on the case...but the man under the mask is a very different Dark Knight than the one we know.

BATMAN/THE FLASH: THE BUTTON
Batman and the Flash follow the Reverse-Flash's trail to a parallel world, a twisted alternate timeline that shouldn't exist.



INFINITE FRONTIER
Alan Scott notices that some of his allies are missing in action, and he's determined to find them. But some would rather remain hidden.

JUSTICE LEAGUE INCARNATE
The Superman of Earth-23 leads a team of superheroes, including Flashpoint Batman, in a last-ditch effort to stop the end of every possible universe!

Don't miss *Flashpoint Beyond*, starting in April!

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BATGIRLS 5. June, 2022. Published monthly by DC Comics, 2900 W. Alameda Avenue, Burbank, CA 91505. GST # is R125821072.

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